



**For Immediate Release
June 8, 2006**

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STATEWIDE ARBOR DAY POSTER CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) today awarded honors to seven winners in the annual Arbor Day Poster Contest with a ceremony at the Atlantis Charter School in Fall River, where First Place winner Zoe Pestana is a student. The theme “Trees are Terrific – in All Shapes and Sizes” drew entries from more than 1,500 fifth-graders in public and private schools across the Commonwealth.

DCR’s Urban and Community Forestry Program Coordinator, on behalf of Commissioner Stephen H. Burrington, congratulated the winners. “These posters beautifully depict the way in which trees make our cities and towns healthier, greener, and more pleasant places to live,” Burrington stated when the winners were chosen. In addition to forestry-related educational gifts, winners received art supplies, and the DCR had their posters professionally mounted for display. The DCR also planted a tree on the school grounds in honor of Zoe Pestana’s winning design. Brigham’s Ice Cream Company graciously donated ice cream for the entire fifth grade and the winners from the other schools.

In addition to first place winner Zoe Pestana, the DCR recognized the Second and Third Place winners as well as four honorable mention winners. Other winners include: Second Place, Vivian Liu of the Memorial Spaulding School in **Newton**; Third Place, Shannen Pavao of the Westport Middle School in **Westport**, and Honorable Mention Emily Zinsli of the **Clinton** Middle School, Nicole Houlihan of the Becket Washington School in **Becket**, Katie Morrissey of the Thorndyke Road School in **Worcester**, and Emily Muller of the Fisher Elementary School in **Walpole**.

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